



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,639	12/22/1999	TOYOSHI KAWADA	1081,1084/JD	3873
21171	7590	04/11/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP			LIANG, REGINA	
SUITE 700				
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2629	

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/468,639	KAWADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Regina Liang	2674	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-14,16-24,26 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1, 3-14, 16-24, 26, 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 8-10-05, 13-6-04, 10-1-04.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-24, 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Andoh et al (US. PAT. NO. 4,044,349 hereinafter Andoh).

Figs. 1, 2 of Andoh discloses a plasma display panel device having first and second electrodes (X and Y electrodes) provided apart from one another and a ground power source, and performing display by generating a discharge between the first and second electrodes, the plasma display panel device comprising a drive circuit (driver 112) applying a drive voltage pulse between the first and second electrodes, the drive circuit connects the first and second electrodes to power sources that are different from the ground power source so as to apply a first drive voltage between the first and second electrodes and when completing the drive voltage pulse, the drive circuit connects the first and second electrodes to power sources that are different from the ground power source so as to apply a second drive voltage between the first and second electrodes (see Fig. 4 and col. 5, line 53 to col. 6, line 46). Andoh also discloses the drive circuit that changes the first and second electrodes from a state of being connected to a first or/and second power

sources different from the ground power source to a state of being connected to a second or/and third or/and fourth power sources different from the ground power source so as to apply a drive voltage between the first and second electrodes when a drive voltage pulse is to be applied between the first and second electrodes. Fig. 4 of Andoh shows the drive voltage pulse having a front edge and a back edge, therefore, Andoh teaches the limitation as claimed.

4. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-24, 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakuma (US. PAT. NO. 4,384,287).

Sakuma discloses a plasma display panel device having first and second electrodes (301, 302) provided apart from one another and a ground power source, and performing display by generating a discharge between the first and second electrodes, the plasma display panel device comprising a drive circuit (Fig. 6) applying a drive voltage pulse between the first and second electrodes, the drive circuit connects the first and second electrodes to power sources that are different from the ground power source so as to apply a first drive voltage between the first and second electrodes and when completing the drive voltage pulse, the drive circuit connects the first and second electrodes to power sources that are different from the ground power source so as to apply a second drive voltage between the first and electrodes (see Figs. 6-12 and col. 5, lines 14-45, col. 7, line 11 to col. 8, line 20). Sakuma also discloses the drive circuit that changes the first and second electrodes from a state of being connected to a first or/and second power sources different from the ground power source to a state of being connected to a second or/and third or/and fourth power sources different from the ground power source so as to apply a drive voltage between the first and second electrodes when a drive voltage pulse is to be applied

between the first and second electrodes. Figs. 7, 10, 12 of Sakuma show the drive voltage pulse having a front edge and a back edge, therefore, Sakuma teaches the limitation as claimed.

5. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art (Figs. 24A, 24B, and page 2, line 9 to page 4, line 20 of the specification).

The admitted prior art teaches a plasma display panel device having first (X), second (Y) and third (A) electrodes, comprising a drive circuit that when a drive voltage pulse is to be applied between the first and second electrodes, applies the drive voltage pulse between the first and second electrodes, while maintaining the third electrode at a voltage potential of the ground power source, the voltage potential of the ground power source being between voltage potentials of the first electrode and the second electrode (Figs. 24A, 24B of admitted prior art show the GND potential is between +Vs and -Vs).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 9/2/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's remarks are not persuasive, as the newly added limitation does not change the scope of the claims at all, noted the rejection above.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina Liang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7693. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Regina Liang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2674

3/31/06